

Message Text

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70

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-12 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-15 INT-08 AGR-20 PA-03

USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /163 W
----- 011900

R 231150 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9807

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 2298

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, BG, IN

SUBJECT: GANGES WATER DIVERSION

1. FOUR DACCA NEWSPAPERS TODAY CARRIED EDITORIALS
CRITICAL OF INDIAN IRRIGATION AND POWER MINISTER
RAO' S STATEMENT (REPORTED BY LOCAL WIRE SERVICE)
THAT INDIA INTENDS BY END OF YEAR TO BEGIN
DIVERSION ON YEAR- ROUND BASIS OF DAILY AVERAGE
40,000 CUSEC WATER FROM GANGES TO THE BHAGIRATHI
VIA FARAKKA BARRAGE. EDITORIALS CHARACTERIZED
SUCH UNILATERAL DECISION AS CONTRARY TO AGREEMENT
IN APRIL 1972 THAT SHARING OF WATERS TO BE
DECIDED ON PRIME MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND IMPLEMENTED
THROUGH JOINT INDO- BANGLADESH WATER COMMISSION.
BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE RIVER WATERS BANGLADESH
AND CONFUSION RESULTING RAO STATEMENT,
EDITORIALS CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE CLARIFICATION.

2. COMMENT: ISSUE LIKELY TO PROVE TO BE POINT
OF CONTINUING IRRITATION BETWEEN GOI AND BDG.
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APPEARANCE OF FOUR EDITORIALS IN ONE DAY SUGGESTS
BDG OFFICIALS INVOLVED SEEKING PUBLICIZE APPARENT
CONFLICT THIS ISSUE.
NEWBERRY

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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